

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
AMENDED PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Title of Rule: Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Fresh Water Wetlands Act

Rule Identifier: 250-RICR-150-15-1

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Repeal

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: 11/23/2020

Hearing Date: 01/06/2021

End of Public Comment: 01/22/2021

Authority for this Rulemaking:

R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 2-1-18 through 2-1-27

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The Department proposes to repeal the existing freshwater wetlands rules in association with the adoption of new rules to replace them. Amendments to state law led to extensive proposed rule revisions that reflect changes in the definition of freshwater wetlands and other terminology associated with regulated areas and the establishment of new buffer standards among other requirements.

Additional Information and Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed repeal until January 22, 2021 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Carol Murphy
Department of Environmental Management
Office of Water Resources
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908
carol.murphy@dem.ri.gov

Public Hearing:

A public hearing, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8, to consider the proposed repeal shall be held on January 6, 2021 at 3:00 pm at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83827272319?pwd=YjUrbkVWUWprS3U0UW>, Zoom Meeting ID:838 2727 2319, Passcode: 480761, Dial: +1 929 205 6099, RI 02908 at which time and place all persons interested therein will be heard. The seating capacity of the room will be enforced and therefore the number of persons

participating in the hearing may be limited at any given time by the hearing officer, in order to comply with safety and fire codes.

The place of the public hearing is accessible to individuals who are handicapped. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please call 401-423-1927 or RI Relay 711 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency representative listed on the public notice.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation see agency contact person above.